

BUILDING RECORDS SHOW PROSPERITY

Unprecedented Progress in Current Twelve Months.

WILL REACH \$10,000,000

Comparison of Real Estate Increases in Years of Police Census Since 1885.

The prosperity and advancement of a community is reflected nowhere more accurately than in the statistics of the office of the building inspector.

The sure and steady growth of Washington is made evident by a glance at the figures showing the extent of real estate improvements from year to year. Realty values have been wonderfully enhanced in Washington by the construction of buildings in every part of the city, as well as in the country.

The building statistics kept by Building Inspector H. Ford are true guides by which to follow Washington's upward course. The steady increase in building has but barely kept pace with the continual increase in population, and a study of the building reports will make this clear in the light of the results of the recent police census.

Comparative Figures.

To better indicate this fact, the amount and value of building and repairs in the District for each of the fiscal years in which a police census has been taken by Major Sylvester and the police department, have been ascertained for the benefit of Times readers.

This carries the story of the District's growth back twenty years. The figures are interesting, too, because they reveal a steady increase after each lapse of years until a certain point is reached, when there is a falling off quite startling—a reminder of the panic that came and went, leaving financial ruin and painful memories in its wake.

This sudden cessation in the building business appears in the report for the year 1894. The next census was taken three years later when the total value of building operations was even less.

Phenomenal Increase.

But from that year until this the number of permits issued for construction of various kinds has increased from day to day and the value has increased from month to month and year to year, until during the month of March, 1905, the total real estate improvements in the District were valued at \$2,000,000, or twice the value of the building done in the same month of the previous year.

The building record for the fiscal year ending in June will eclipse all previous records. There is every reason to believe that the year's work will have amounted to over \$10,000,000. The nearest approach to this was in 1892 when the permits were estimated to value over \$6,000,000. There has been nothing like it since.

The cost of buildings erected under permits issued during the first nine months of the present fiscal year was \$5,887,771. And the busiest season of the year in the building line is just beginning. At the same rate of increase over 1904 shown last month, the total cost of building for the year will easily reach the \$10,000,000 mark.

Many Dwellings Built.

As showing the near relation of this work to the increase in population it is to be observed that a large share of the permits are issued for dwellings. There are many large apartment houses added each year, but the number of private dwellings is materially increased from year to year. It is estimated that nearly half of the permits for the present year will be for dwellings.

It must be remembered that in these figures there is no account taken of the vast amount of public building continuing under way in the District. The building statistics include private work only. The Federal Government yearly spends millions in this line, and the District government alone adds \$500,000 annually to the sum total of Washington improvements.

Twenty Years' Record.

The building record for the various census years is as follows:

Year.	No. Permits.	Cost.	Dwellings.
1885.....	3,691	\$4,067,234	1,233
1886.....	2,426	\$3,250,994	1,126
1887.....	5,565	\$9,088,504	2,917
1888.....	2,984	\$4,294,941	789
1889.....	4,362	\$6,162,593	1,232
1890.....	2,709	\$10,000,000	1,232

*Estimated.

TWO COWBOYS WILL TRY TO TAKE BIG PRIZE

Minnick and Rogers on Way to New York to Enter Broncho Riding Contest.

J. H. Minnick, of Seymour, Tex., and Will Rogers, of Claremore, I. T., two of the most celebrated cowboys of the Southwest, passed through Washington today on their way to New York, where they will enter the \$1000 prize broncho riding contest in Madison Square Garden on Monday night.

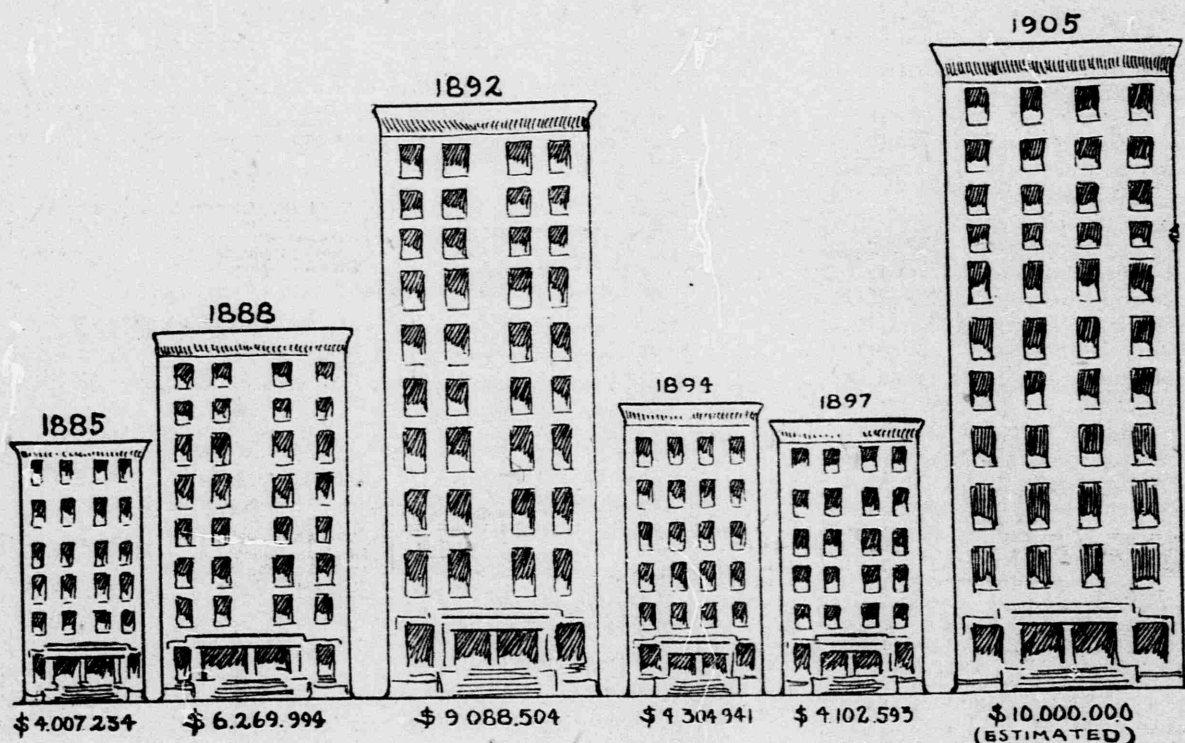
Mr. Minnick was here during the inauguration, and is remembered as the cowboy in the red shirt who did such wonderful tricks with his pony and rope on the Avenue as the parade passed by. His friend and comrade, Will Rogers, is perhaps the finest ropeman in the world, doing a number of fancy tricks with a rope which few cowboys ever attempted.

This morning the two Westerners, attired in their cowboy boots and hats, went to the White House, and did some of their choice tricks for the entertainment of the children of the President. Rogers showed the children how a cowboy jumps the rope.

Rogers is one of the few cowboys who can use two horses at once, and he has attained more success at this feat than any man living. He can catch a rider with one rope and the horse with the other.

The two companions will try to capture the \$1000 prize in New York Monday. They will come back through Washington, and say that they will be here when President Roosevelt arrives. It is their intention to give a special performance for his benefit.

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR IN BUILDING OPERATIONS IS PROMISED FOR WASHINGTON BEFORE 1906 COMES



COMPARISON OF BUILDINGS ADDED TO THE CITY IN TWENTY YEARS.

CITY LEAGUE STARTS SHORTLY

Three New Teams Added to Roster.

PROSPECTS SEEM BRIGHT

Season Opens May 1—Coliseum Park to Be Used—Grounds Being Put in Shape.

The board of directors of the Capital City Baseball League has finally determined upon the day of their opening.

Several things combined to delay this year's inauguration, which was originally planned for April 15, and in view of these it was found expedient to change the date. The first of these was the selection of a team to take the place of the Aquinas team, as the latter found it necessary to drop out. The team selected to take the place of the Southeastern aggregation was that of the Washington Light Infantry, making the league now perhaps the strongest in the city, if names and records count for aught. Under the roster of the league are found Carroll Institute, St. Stephen's Institute, and Aloysius Club, all of last year's organizations, left in the league.

The three new teams are the Bureau Athletic Club, the Washington Light Infantry and St. Patrick's.

Owing to the use and occupation of the White Lot by the promoters of the exposition, who have been given the privilege of building houses for the display of the American locomotive, which will include its origin and development, the Capital City League has had temporarily at least to secure other grounds for the Coliseum, at the end of the F street car line, in the eastern part of the city.

A corps of men has been, under the tutelage of M. O'Connor, who manages the Bureau team, working to get the grounds in shape, and the place where the former crack cyclists had their hair-splitting finishes would not now be recognized, such a transformation has been made.

The delay incident to the shaping up of these grounds, when coupled with the fact that the Washington Light Infantry needed a little more time to get ready, were the determining factors in the decision reached by the board of managers. That this respite was appreciated by the new team cannot be doubted for the names of the components of the various teams had to be given to the office of the secretary on April 26, or its members would be ineligible in the opening game. This rule is most rigidly enforced.

The schedule committee has not finished its work as yet.

The old clubs of the league need no introduction. The new ones bear names that augur well. The Bureau Athletic Club will be the audience of Mr. O'Connor, and will retain nearly all of its old players. To the roster of Wahler, Husten, Taylor, and Goltzback, have been added Torney, Waple, Wilkerson, Babson, Beckett, and Pulcher. Many of these men played in the Capital City last year with the Turner Athletic Club, Aloysius will have a fast aggregation.

Mr. Kelly, at last, Mattings in light. Brown in second, Kicker in center, Brown in left, Cantwell and Corriga, pitching, Halloran third, and Smith catching. Cantwell when not in the box will hold down the initial sack. In the only big try out this team has had this year, surprising strength was shown, for the Georgetown Reserves were defeated 10 to 6.

The Washington Light Infantry team is not in shape to say much at present, but it will be under the leadership and management of Major Porter House and E. Newman.

St. Patrick's team is the third new and unknown quantity. P. V. Dowling, who held down Georgetown's first base for four years, will have charge of it, and he says his outlook is good. He has the following men: Finnegan, Carroll, Furlough, Kane, Keane, Collins, Denders, Day, Duggan, Simmon, George, Fitzpatrick, Curran, Butler Brothers, Babcock, Bates, Buckley, Oyster, captain Eastern High School baseball team, Grace, Hines, Cizek, and Brown.

St. Stephen's Institute team, last year's pennant winner, is to be under the leadership of Shorty Hughes. St. Stephen's will play with the Capital City League and no other. The deposits demanded by the constitution are all up, and naught now remains except to get ready for the fray.

SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE.

Those grand dukes cost the Russian people about \$15,000,000 a year, not counting what they steal.

"Gee, they're as expensive as a lot of Florida's sextet girls."—Brooklyn Citizen.

CONDUCTING A BIG STABLE IS NO SNAP

Most Millionaire Owners Lose Money on the Turf.

IT IS THE SPORT OF KINGS

High Prices Are Often Paid for Two-Year-Olds Who Prove Failures.

David Gideon's recent statement that nearly all of the millionaire turfmen in the East conduct their racing stables each year at a financial loss for the sake of the sport is based upon fact.

According to several horsemen who know the inside workings of the racetrack game.

"The expenses of one of these big stables," a well-known turfman said, "are greater than the public at large has any idea of. Take the leading stables of last year, that of H. B. Duryea, which was really owned by P. W. Whitney, as an example.

Won \$200,000.

"The stable won more than \$200,000 in stakes and purses during the season, yet it is safe to say that there was no profit, if any, to speak of. Two jockeys, Shaw and Hildebrand, were under contract to the stable to begin with. Shaw received about \$9,000 in salary, while Hildebrand got all of \$10,000 for his services.

"A trainer like John W. Rogers must receive probably \$10,000 in salary and 10 per cent of the winnings of the stable, which would make his rakeoff close to \$30,000. The Duryea stable must have paid at least \$40,000 in entrance fees and forfeits, which would bring the total up to about \$50,000. It is safe to say that \$70,000 in forfeits is still due the stable, which may never receive the whole amount, meaning that instead of more than \$200,000 in hand the stable has received close to \$130,000 for the stakes and purses won last year. Then, taking into consideration the money paid out for horses, stabling, help and transportation, it can be seen that there is not much left on the right side of the ledger.

No Sure Thing.

"Conducting a big stable of stakes horses is not a sure thing financially by any means. Some years the two-year-olds which have been purchased at high prices or have been bred at a steep expense do not pan out. Yet an owner who wants to take chances of winning some of the big stakes must enter his horses at all sorts of fees. In this way forfeits mount up. If he has ten horses named for the turf, for instance, he has to pay \$250 for each, or \$2,500, yet not one of them may amount to a row of pins. Forfeits eat up a bankroll very quickly, and that is one of the reasons why poor owners, so called, steer clear of stake races. They prefer a few selling platters and handicaps horses who can be entered for small subscriptions and for whom no forfeit must be paid.

Off Season Expenses.

"When they are not racing, the only expenses they incur are for stable room and feed. One owner who has half a dozen first-class platters often wins more in a whole season than a million-naire who has forty horses, engaged in rich stakes, in his barn. Good selling platters, when properly placed, are much safer betting propositions than untried stake horses, and in that way an owner of platters has a chance frequently to clean up handsomely in the ring. John Ryan, the got-rick-quick man, showed the truth of this statement when last year, with a few horses, including Reliable, who were entered in selling races and overnight handicaps, he cleaned up about \$750,000 before he retired from the turf. This was clean profit, too, which is in striking contrast with the operations of some of the big owners, who usually spend thousands of dollars for the pure sport of seeing their colors carried to victory in popular stake events."

NEAPOLITAN BEGGARS.

Charles Lever, the novelist, had little faith in the sincerity of the claims of the Neapolitan beggars. He says that when he threw a handful of small coins to them the blind were the first to see it, the paralyzed to run for it, the maimed to pick it up, the naked to put in their pockets, and the dumb to blaspheme their ill-luck in being out of the scramble.—Kansas City Independent.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

"Yes," said the young man, "I am about to get a political job, where I will have nothing to do but sit around and look wise."

"Well," rejoined his fair companion in the parlor scene, "I'm sure you will be able to fill the first half of the requirements all right enough."—Chicago Post.

WASHINGTON TEAMS AT QUAKER GAMES

Eight Relays From This City Will Compete.

TWO IN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Georgetown in Mile College—Central High School Has Choice Position for High Schools.

Washington will be represented in the relay carnival to be held under the auspices of the University of Pennsylvania at Franklin Field on April 23.

Georgetown, George Washington, Gallaudet, Georgetown Law, Central High, Western High, Georgetown Prep and the Army and Navy Prep schools will each have relay teams entered.

The classification of the teams which has just been issued by the officials of the meet gives Georgetown position No. 5 in the one-mile intercollegiate championship, with Yale on the inside and Princeton on the extreme outside.

Gallaudet and George Washington have both been listed in class No. 3.

The muties are No. 4, while the Buff and Blue will be outside in the race in which eight colleges are entered.

Class No. 5 has enlisted teams from six colleges and the Georgetown Law School runners have been lucky enough to get No. 1. Central High School has the pole in the race for the high school championship of America, in which seven of the fastest scholastic teams in the country will compete.

Western High.

In class No. 2 in the high schools, Western High, of this city, got the position next to the inside, while Georgetown Prep is No. 4 in a nine-team race in class 7 of the prep schools and academics. The Army and Navy quarter has the fourth alley in class 1 in the same division.

The classes in which Washington is represented follow:

Championship one-mile college—1, Yale, 2, Pennsylvania; 3, Chicago; 4, Syracuse; 5, Georgetown; 6, Princeton.

Championship high school—1, Washington Central High; 2, Chicago; 3, Brooklyn Boys' High School; 4, Erasmus Hall High School (Brooklyn); 5, Dewitt Clinton New York Central; 6, Central Manual Training School, Philadelphia; 7, Philadelphia Central High School.

College class—1, Western Reserve; 2, Western University of Pennsylvania; 3, University of Maryland; 4, Gallaudet; 5, Westminster; 6, Temple College; 7, Washington and Jefferson; 8, George Washington.

Class 5-1, Georgetown Law School; 2, Pennsylvania Institute for Deaf; 3, Chestnut Hill Academy; 4, Army and Navy Prep School; 5, Phillips Brooks School; 6, Melrose Academy; 7, Wrentham Academy; 8, Blight's School.

Prep School, class 7-1, "Poly." prep school; 2, Williams School; 3, Boys' Latin School; 4, Georgetown Preparatory School; 5, West Jersey Academy; 6, Pingry School; 7, Montpelier; 8, Academy of St. Martin's University School; 9, Seton Hall Preparatory School.

It is significant that for the first time in many years Harvard will not have a team in any of the three races. Last year Harvard made a sorry showing, finishing last or next to last in all three events. The Crimson authorities explain that the early date of the relays and the fact that they are situated so far north make it impossible for them to get in shape this early in the season. Captain Schick, however, will compete in the 100-yard dash and it is probable that there will be Harvard entries in one or two other of the special events.

RACED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THIRTEEN YEARS

Somebody is reminded to write about Bert Seldon, Jr., 2164, and designates him the true "Iron Horse." And that's a fact. He was the original Iron Horse of the trotting turf.

He raced continuously for thirteen years. He was got by Warwick Boy and foaled in 1887. A curious feature of this horse's career on the turf is that his record of 2167 remained unchanged from 1893, when it was made, till he retired from the turf in 1900. In that time he trotted 704 heats, of which he won 230, winning first money 74 times, second money 59 times, third money, 25 times, fourth money 15 times, and unplaced 16 times. Only once was he distanced.

Total winnings (gross) are placed at \$24,562.50. His first year out he started twice; in 1889, 16 times; in 1890, 25 times; in 1891, 39 times; in 1892, 39 times; in 1893, 19 times; in 1894, 6 times; in 1895, 12 times; in 1896, 16 times; in 1897, 18 times; in 1898, 15 times; in 1899, 14 times. In 1900 he was retired from service. He was started in one race, won third money, and was retired.—Denver Post.

CHAMPION 'COON HUNTER IS DEAD

Reputed to Be Best Dog in Class.

IN THE CORCORAN GALLERY

Had Record of One Hundred and Ten 'Coons in One Year—Funeral Exercises.

CARROLLTON, Ohio, April 22—"Old Ben," for whom his admirers claim the championship of the 'coon dogs that ever came to earth, is dead and the members of the Carrollton 'Coon Club and all 'coon hunters for many miles around for Ben had a wide reputation—are in mourning.

Ben was born in the fall of 1888 and got his name from President Harrison, who was elected over Grover Cleveland at that time. He died last Thursday night on the farm of Henry Withrow, in Fox township. He had just finished a victorious struggle with a lively 'coon when he staggered out beside a fence, lay down and died. True to his character he "had his boots on when he fell."

Kentucky Hound.

Ben was a pure-bred Kentucky fox hound, and was brought into puphood on the farm of Hugh Marshall. He was a handsome black and white dog with tan ears. Having the best of fox hound blood, he was fine on the scent, but not overfast on his feet.

This latter fact doubtless put into his head the idea of cutting across country instead of following a fox trail closely. By this method he would always turn up at the proper points. This extraordinary shrewdness spoiled him for fox hunting purposes, and he was not at all popular until it was found that he had developed into a splendid 'coon dog.

Five Years' Old.

Ben was about five years old when it was found that he could pick up a 'coon trail and follow it when other dogs would not know that there ever had been a 'coon in the neighborhood. Once having got the scent, there was no rest for Ben until he had treed his game. Squire Handley and the other members of the Carrollton 'Coon Club can tell numberless stories of Ben's pertinacity. He has a record of 110 'coons in one year, for which Hugh Marshall vouches. Ben never led. One night he barked up a tree on which the most careful search failed to reveal the 'coon. Tru Myers even went over the tree with a torch without bringing the game to light. John H. Pimble declared that Ben had at last given a false alarm, but Squire Handley retained his faith in Ben. Finally the tree was cut down and the 'coon emerged from somewhere—nobody ever found where—and was run down.

Looking for Dog.

In '96 the Carrollton 'Coon Club was looking for a good dog and canvassed the country over. Everywhere Handley, Pimble and the rest would run across dogs that were "not as good as Old Ben, but pretty near as good," or that he had in some way absorbed some of the good qualities of Old Ben. Finally they asked where they could get Old Ben himself, since he seemed to be the daddy of all the 'coon dogs, and they found the old hunter in Bergholz.

Ben was then eight years old, but he was still active and his scent was keen. In fact, he retained his sharp nose until the last, although age showed on him otherwise. Handley and Pimble brought Ben home with them that night and, just to prove his worth, set him at work in a heavy rainfall. Ben and another dog were together, but the latter animal never knew that there was a 'coon until Ben traced it into a pile of stones. That established Ben's fame forever.

Picture Here.

Ben is probably the only 'coon dog whose picture is preserved in the Corcoran Art Gallery, at Washington. This honor came through John H. Pimble. Ben is buried in Hugh Marshall's farm, and the spot is to be marked with a suitable heaustone.

When Pimble comes home from Washington in May fitting exercises will be held, and among the chief mourners will be Sheriff Tip Queen, Hugh Marshall, Henry Withrow and Win Myers. Old Ben is dead, but his fame lives and his merits are perpetuated in several generations of 'coon dogs now living who have had the benefit of his cunning in their training.

STEWARDS REFUSED ENTRY OF RINGER

Racing secretaries, throughout the country have been notified to keep a weather eye open for a horseman named G. Wilson, who is wanted for attempted "rigging."

Wilson is a colored man, and is supposed to have gone to some of the Northern tracks.

February 15 a filly named Irene O., owned by Wilson, appeared as an entry in a five and a half furlong scramble for maidens in Oakland.

Irene O. had worked fast, and preparations were made for a "killing." Unfortunately for Wilson, he could not identify his filly to the satisfaction of the judges, and she was ordered scratched.

Shortly after this occurrence Wilson and his stable departed, supposedly for Los Angeles. Beyond cavil of doubt, Irene O. was a "ringer," and the authorities at Ascot Park were notified to watch for her.

But she never reached there. This same G. Wilson started a mare named Florista, with pedigree given as by Emperor of Norfolk-Florentine, at Hawthorne track last summer, and later on at Kansas City.

Florida finished third to Dragon and Comrade at Hawthorne track, Saturday, August 27. A 100 to 1 shot in the betting, she was heavily played for show.

This Florista was a "ringer," for Charles Pupper, of Los Angeles, recently stated that he sold the real Florista, a daughter of Emperor of Norfolk, to John A. Cole, of San Bernardino, and that the mare was not outside of this State last summer.

The supposition now is that the Chicago Florista was one other than Abby L., formerly owned by B. A. Chilson, of McNamara fame. The latter famous "ringer" was poisoned.

Dowie Inquires About Fate of Missionary

Telegraphs State Department From His Private Car Asking Particulars Regarding Attack in China on Kennedy.

"I am on my private car en route to Aurora. Have just heard of the attack on Missionary Kennedy by the Chinese. The hearts of 10,000 faithful ones bled for him. Would like further details."

A message reading somewhat like the above was received yesterday at the State Department from John Alexander Dowie, founder of the famous Dowie clan. It relates to the reported attack upon a Dowie missionary a few days ago at Tsangli, in the province of Hangkow, China.

The American consul at Shanghai reported the occurrence then, and yesterday a supplemental report was received, stating that "Kennedy was badly injured, but will recover."

Beyond this the State Department has no information, not even to furnish Mr. Dowie.

An investigation has been ordered. In case the attack on the part of the Chinese is found to have been unprovoked, reparation will be demanded.

Dowie's message was sent from a place in Missouri, through which section he is traveling.

CANDIDATE TIBBLES MAY START NEW BANK

Honesty and Publicity to Be Its Cornerstone—All Its Operations Would Be Open at All Times to Inspection of Depositors.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 22.—Thomas H. Tibbles, recent candidate for Vice President on the Populist ticket, is going to New York the 1st of May, and if conditions are as he expects to find them he will become president of a bank to be established in that city.

Mr. Tibbles has outlined his ideas of banking and the plans he has if the New York venture succeeds. For some time, he said, he has been in correspondence with a number of New York bankers—some economists, some men of wealth—who wished to put his theories into practice. Mr. Tibbles said he had little doubt the bank would be started.

Much Idle Money.

"There are several millions of dollars lying idle in New York waiting to be invested in such a bank as my friends and I propose to start," said Mr. Tibbles. "It will be a national bank, conducted on business principles, like hundreds of others, but it will be different, in that the two leading innovations will be honesty and publicity. Furthermore, with a capital of \$50,000, it will take out only such circulation as the law insists to make. The Government forces us to take out a certain amount of circulation, and we must obey the law, but I am now, and always shall be, opposed to the Government being a partner in the banking business."

Mr. Tibbles was asked how, if his bank was to be conducted on present accepted business principles of banking, he could expect to compete with the many strong financial institutions already established in New York.

"By the innovation of honesty and publicity," he replied. "Banking is simply confidence; there is no absolute safety. It depends entirely on the honor of the banker, and that is what is lacking with much of the present banks. Let the common people of modest means in New York know that our bank is absolutely safe and deposits will roll in. There will be complete publicity."

Freest Publicity.

"Every depositor, every patron, will know exactly what the bank is doing if he cares to inquire. The books will be open for inspection. Every loan and business transaction will be bulletined for the benefit of the depositors or borrowers. The cashier's slip will always say: 'Pittsburg Post.'"

A DEFINITION.

"Paw," asked little Johnny, "what's a compromise?"

"That," replied the wise father, "